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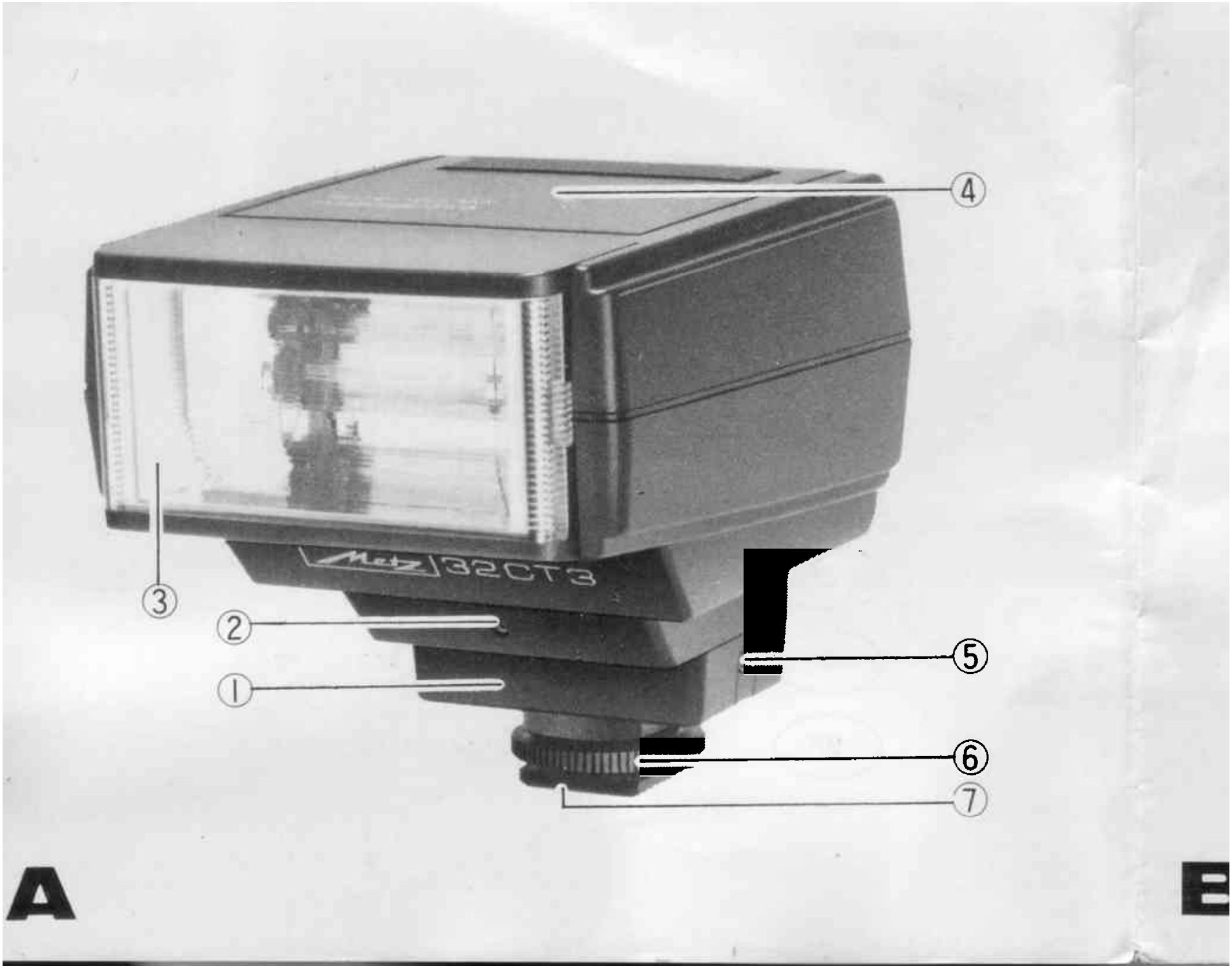
Metz

MECABLITZ 32 CT 3

BEDIENUNGSANLEITUNG
OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
MODE D'EMPLOI
HANDLEIDING
INSTRUCCIONES DEL MANEJO
BRUKSANVISNING
KAYTTOOHJE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3
2
1
5
6
7
Metz 32CT3
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B

Contents

1. Operating elements/Technical data/Guide number table

2. Mecablitz 32 CT 3 features

3. Operating instructions
3.1. Power supply
3.2. Battery choice
3.3. Installation and replacement of batteries or NiCad packs
3.4. Switching on and off
3.5. Battery „AUTO OFF"
3.6. Battery tester
3.7. Mounting the flashgun on the camera
3.8. Sync connection
3.8.1. Cameras with hot-shoe contact
3.8.2. Cameras without hot-shoe contact
3.8.3. Camera shutter speed

4. Automatic mode
4.1. General
4.2. Selection of automatic mode
4.3. Auto working ranges
4.4. Auto check
4.5. Automatic mode examples

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5. Manual mode
5.1. Manual mode examples

6. Illumination/Wide angle attachment

7. Bounce flashes
7.1. Bounce flashes in the automatic mode
7.2. Bounce flashes in the manual mode

8. Care and maintenance

9. Special accessories

Operating elements

Fig. „A" – Total view

① Base 301
② Sensor
③ Tilting reflector
④ Battery compartment cover
⑤ Sync cable socket
⑥ Knurled nut
⑦ Foot with contacts

Fig. „B" – Rear view

⑧ Adapter catch
⑨ Control centre

Fig. „C" – Control centre

⑩ Auto check indicator (red)
⑪ Film speed arrow (DIN)
⑫ DIN/ASA film speed scales
⑬ Film speed arrow (ASA)
⑭ Aperture scale with slide
⑮ Distance scales m/ft
⑯ Battery test key
⑰ Battery test indicator (green)
⑱ Pushbutton „ON"
⑲ In-use indicator (green)
⑳ Pushbutton „OFF"
㉑ Manual firing button
㉒ Flash ready light
㉓ Operating mode selector

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Technical data

Guide number	for 21 DIN/100 ASA
m-system	32
ft-system	105
BCPS	2250
Illumination:	approx. 58° horizontally, 42° vertically
Illumination, using wide angle attachment:	68° horizontally, 49° vertically
Tilting range of reflector:	0°, + 60°, + 75°, + 90° vertically 0°, ± 90° horizontally
Colour temperature:	approx. 5600 K
Automatic mode with 3 working apertures:	f2 – f4 – f8 (using 21 DIN/100 ASA film)
Coverage angle of sensor:	approx. 25°
Flash duration:	approx. 1/500* ..... 1/20 000 sec.
Recycle times approx:	
using normal alkaline manganese batteries:	11* ..... 0,5 sec.
using super power alkaline manganese batteries:	8* ..... 0,5 sec.
using NiCad packs:	6* ..... 0,5 sec.

Number of flashes approx:	
using normal alkaline manganese batteries:	100* 2500
using super power alkaline manganese batteries:	150* 3500
using NiCad packs:	60* 1500
Powergrip G 15	
with alkaline manganese batteries approx.:	430*
with Nicad cells approx.:	280*
Synchronization:	low-voltage thyristor ignition
„AUTO OFF" feature:	switches unit off approx. after 5 minutes' operation
Power sources:	4 alkaline manganese batteries IEC LR6 4 NiCad packs IEC KR15/51 0.5 Ah
Dimensions:	74 x 80 x 110 mm (H x W x D) approx. 300 g (without power sources)
Units supplied:	Mecablitz 32 CT 3 with base 301 Sync cable 36–50 Wide angle attachment 32–42 2 manuals

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Special accessories:

NiCad-charger B 28
Pouch T 32
SCA adapter system 300
Powergrip G 15
Sync extension cable 60–53 (1.25 m)
Sync extension cable 60–54 (5 m)
Filter-Set 32-32
Mecalux 11
Camera bracket 40–36

*Automatic mode off

Guide number table 32 CT 3

Film speed		Guide number	
DIN	ASA	Meter system	Feet system
12	12	11	37
13	16	13	42
14	20	14	47
15	25	16	53
16	32	18	59
17	40	20	66
18	50	23	74
19	64	25	83
20	80	29	94
21	100	32	105
22	125	36	118
23	160	40	132
24	200	45	148
25	250	51	166
26	320	57	187
27	400	64	209
28	500	72	235
29	650	80	264
30	800	90	296
31	1000	101	332
32	1250	114	373
33	1600	127	418
34	2000	143	469
35	2500	160	526
36	3200	180	590

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2. Mecablitz 32 CT 3 features

Your Mecablitz 32 CT 3 is a high-performance flashgun of sophisticated technology.

Its superior features include:

- Automatic operation with 3 working apertures. Solves all depth-of-field and lighting problems.
- Power-saving thyristor light control for super-short-recycle times in the close-up range and a higher number of flashes per charge or battery pack.
- Long-time flash confirmation (auto check)
- Manual mode with full light intensity
- Reflector tilts 90° vertically, complete unit swivels 90° to left or right. This allows indirect flashes without sacrificing the advantage of automatic operation.
- Power supply by NiCad packs or dry batteries
- Battery „AUTO OFF" switch
  Prevents unnecessary battery drain in case you accidentally forget to switch the unit off.
- Battery tester
  Signals end of capacity for early replacement of batteries.
- Low-voltage thyristor ignition
- Series 300 SCA adapters
  Allow flashing in dedicated mode with the system cameras Canon, Contax,

Minolta, Nikon, Olympus, Pentax, Yashica, Cosina, Chinon, Ricoh, Leica, Rollei, Hasselblad etc. Further SCA adapters are in preparation.
- Wide range of accessories

Please read these operating instructions carefully so that you can make the best of the applications this unit and its system offers.

3. Operating instructions

3.1. Power supply:

The unit can be selectively operated on dry batteries size IEC LR6 or NiCad packs, size IEC 15/51. For NiCad operation, we recommend the use of our NiCad charger B 28, available as a special accessory.

3.2. Battery choice:

Only use alkaline manganese batteries!
Especially suited for use in flashgun are super power alkaline manganese batteries like Berec Super power (LR6/MN 1500)

Daimon Super Power LR6
Fuji Novel Photo LR6
Varta Photo V 1500 PX a.s.o.

(The examples given have been selected by alphabetical order, not by quality features). The ratings given in the technical data are obtained when using brand-new batteries.

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3.3. Installation and replacement of batteries or NiCad packs:

Open the battery compartment cover (4). When inserting the batteries or NiCad packs observe the polarity marks inside the compartment.
The batteries are exhausted and should be replaced when recycling takes more than 60 seconds. Make sure to remove the batteries if you are not likely to use the unit for a long period of time.
Caution: Battery leakage may damage the flashgun. Therefore, never leave run-down batteries in the battery compartment. Keep exhausted batteries away from heat or flame.

3.4. Switching on and off:

Upon depression of the pushbutton „ON" (18) the green in-use indicator (19) lights up. The unit is ready for operation as soon as the flash ready light (22) starts glowing. You may now fire a trial flash by means of the manual firing button (21). The unit is turned off using the „OFF" key (20).

3.5. Battery „AUTO OFF":

Your Mecablitz features a special „AUTO OFF" circuit. This feature switches the unit off about 5 minutes after having reached flash readiness or 5 minutes after having fired a flash. The in-use indicator (19) and the flash ready light (22) will then extinguish. This valuable feature prevents battery drain in case you accidentally forget to switch the flashgun off. After this automatic disconnection, the flash unit can be turned on again by operation of the push-button „ON" (18).

3.6. Battery tester:

The battery tester is intended for testing dry batteries only. The dry batteries have sufficient capacity if the battery test indicator (17) lights up on depression of battery test key (16). There is only a small amount of capacity left if the battery test indicator (17) does not light up. In such a case it is recommended that the batteries be replaced before being drained completely.

3.7. Mounting the flashgun on the camera:

Loosen the knurled nut (6) on the Mecablitz base and slip the flash unit into the camera's accessory shoe. Then re-tighten the knurled nut. If your camera has no accessory shoe, we recommend the use of the METZ camera bracket 40–36.

3.8. Sync connection:

3.8.1. Cameras with hot-shoe contact:

Sync connection to the camera is automatically established by hot-shoe contact. Make sure that the sync cable is **not** connected to the sync cable socket (5) on the Mecablitz base.

3.8.2. Cameras without hot-shoe contact:

Slip one end of the sync cable into the socket (5) on the flashgun's base. This will automatically convert the unit to PC-cable contact. The other end of the cable is connected to the camera's sync socket.
Now set the sync selector or the camera to X or use the X sync socket.

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3.8.3. Camera shutter speed:

For cameras with focal plane shutter (almost all reflex cameras), carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions.
Shutter speeds faster than recommended will result in shadows in the picture.
A standard setting of 1/125 sec. is recommended for cameras with diaphragm shutter. However, other speeds may also be used.

4. Automatic mode

4.1. General:

When a flash is fired, the sensor built into the flashgun measures the light reflected form the subject and quenches the flash as soon as the right quantity of light has been received.
The following should be observed when taking flash shots in the automatic mode:

1) Make sure that the sensitivity of the film is set properly.
2) Heed that the subject is within the working range of the automatic f-stop.
3) For good flash results, the aperture selected on the camera lens must be identical to the flashgun's auto working aperture.

4.2. Selection of automatic mode:

Set the correct film speed on the DIN/ASA film speed scale ⑫ using the corresponding arrow ⑪ or ⑬. For each of the three automatic f-numbers on the aperture scale ⑭ which can now be selected, a coloured guideline leads to one of the settings „A". Set the operating mode selector ㉓ to the desired f-stop.

4.3. Auto working ranges:

Each of the three adjustable automatic apertures has a working range whose upper limit is indicated by the associated coloured line on the distance scale ⑮. The subject to be taken must be within the working range of the selected automatic aperture.

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Exceeding the upper limit of the auto working range may result in under-exposure, falling below the lower limit will produce over-exposure.

Auto working range table:
(Minimum distance – Limiting range)

Red range:	1.6 m – 16 m	(5.3 ft to 53 ft)
Blue range:	0,8 m – 8 m	(2.6 ft to 26 ft)
Yellow range:	0,4 m – 4 m	(1.3 ft to 13 ft)

A change in film speed will not change the working range, but will change the associated apertures.
The above given working ranges do not apply to bounce flashes (e.g. using the ceiling as a reflecting surface).

4.4. Auto check:
Illumination of the auto check indicator ⑩ signals correct exposure.
This feature is very useful in **bounce flash** applications for which the given working ranges do not apply. The firing of a trial flash by operation of the manual firing button ㉑ (holding the flash unit as for normal photography) enables you to find out if the available light output is sufficient for the aperture selected.
If the auto check indicator fails to light up on firing a trial flash, stop the unit down to the next smaller aperture or reduce the distance to the reflecting surface or the subject. Then fire another trial flash.

4.5. Automatic mode examples:

4.5.1. Example I:

Flash-to-subject distance: 3 m
Film speed: 21 DIN
Proceed as follows:
Set the arrow ⑪ to 21 DIN. As the flash-to-subject distance is shorter than the limiting ranges of all three auto working apertures and longer than the minimum distances, you have the choice of selecting any one of the three apertures. Due to the better depth of field you decide in favour of aperture f8. Now set the operating mode selector ㉓ to the yellow guide line.

Settings:
F-number on camera lens: f8
Automatic f-stop: f8 (yellow range)
Film speed: 21 DIN

4.5.2. Example II:

Flash-to-subject distance: 6 m
Film speed: 100 ASA
Proceed as follows:
Set the arrow ⑬ to 100 ASA. In this case, you cannot use the yellow range (aperture f8) as its limiting range is 4 m. You have the choice between the blue

zone (aperture f4 – limiting range 8 m) and the red zone (aperture f2 – limiting range 16 m). Due to the better depth of field you decide in favour of the „blue" aperture.

Settings:
F-number on camera lens: f4
Automatic f-stop: f4 (blue zone)
Film speed: 100 ASA

5. Manual mode

Set the operating mode selector ㉓ to „M". This will override the automatic mode. Move the aperture scale ⑭ until the arrow ⑪ or ⑬ lines up with the film speed used on the DIN or ASA film speed scale ⑫.
The f-number to be set on the camera's lens barrel is then given in the aperture scale ⑭. You will find the correct f-number above the corresponding flash-to-subject distance in the distance scale ⑮. The aperture to be set is always dependent on the flash-to-subject distance.

5.1. Manual mode examples:

Film speed: 21 DIN
Flash-to-subject distance: 16 m – Aperture to be set on camera lens: f2
Flash-to-subject distance: 8 m – Aperture to be set on camera lens: f4
Flash-to-subject distance: 4 m – Aperture to be set on camera lens: f8

The f-number to be set on the camera's lens barrel can also be established without the aperture calculator.

F-number on camera lens = Guide number : Flash-to-subject distance

The guide number for the film speed used is given in the guide number table.

Example:
Film speed: 22 DIN
Guide number given in guide number table: 36
Flash-to-subject distance: 3 m

Guide number 36 : Flash-to-subject distance 3 m = F-number on camera f12
Select: f11

6. Illumination/Wide angle attachment

The illumination of your Mecablitz 32 CT 2 is rectangular, 58° horizontally and 42° vertically.
This provides for satisfactory illumination of 24 x 36 mm pictures taken with a wide angle lens of up to 35 mm focal length.
Using the supplied wide angle attachment, illumination is enhanced to 68° horizontally and 49° vertically which makes it possible to take 35 mm pictures with a wide angle lens up to 28 mm.

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The unit's **automatic system** will measure the light correctly even if a wide angle attachment is used. You must take into account, however, that the limits of the working ranges are reduced.

Reduced auto working ranges (using a wide angle attachment):

Red zone: 1,1 m – 11,2 m (3.7 ft to 37 ft)
Blue zone: 0,6 m – 5,6 m (1.8 ft to 18 ft)
Yellow zone: 0,3 m – 2,8 m (1 ft to 9 ft)

In the **manual mode,** the nominal aperture setting is changed when the wide angle attachment is used. In this case, the f-number determined by the guide number or by the aperture calculator will not be applicable so that the next lower f-number has to be set on the camera's lens barrel.

Example:
Film speed: 21 DIN
Flash-to-subject distance: 8 m
F-number given on aperture calculator: f4
F-number to be set on camera's lens barrel: f2.8

7. Bounce flashes

Direct light sometimes produces hard, dramatic shadows. This can be avoided by bouncing the flash. For this purpose, the reflector is tilted up so that the light is reflected off the ceiling or a suitable reflective surface to give soft overall illumination. The reflecting surface must have a neutral colour or be white, when taking colour shots. For colour effects, you may choose a reflecting surface in the desired colour.

7.1. Bounce flashes in the automatic mode:

Make sure that the sensor is directed toward the subject. Check for correct aperture setting by firing a trial flash. Watch the auto check indicator. See par. 4.4.

7.2. Bounce flashes in the manual mode:

The operating mode selector (23) is in „ M" position (override of automatic mode). A common rule of thumb for calculating the aperture setting required for small rooms is:

$$\text{F-number to be set on camera lens} = \frac{\text{Guide number}}{2 \times \text{flash-to-subject distance}}$$

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8. Care and maintenance

Exhausted batteries should be removed from the unit immediately. Remember to remove the batteries also if you are not likely to use the Mecablitz for a long period of time. Store the batteries separately!
The built-in flash capacitor deforms when not in use. To prevent deformation, the capacitor should be activated every three months by inserting the batteries and switching the unit on for about 15 minutes. Operate the pushbutton ON ⑱ every time the AUTO OFF feature switches the unit off.
Protect your Mecablitz from moisture and excessive heat!
Your flashgun is neither splash-water- nor drip-water-proof.

9. Special accessories

Be careful not to connect any accessories unintended for use with the Mecablitz 32 CT 3.

NiCad charger B 28

Pouch T 32

Camera bracket 40–36

Sync extension cable 60–53 (1.25 m)

Sync extension cable 60–54 (5 m)

Mecalux 11
Allows optical, delay-free remote release of slave units by means of flash triggered by the camera.

SCA adapters system 300
Allow flashing in dedicated mode with system cameras.
See separate operating instructions.

Power Grip G 15
The MB 32 CT 3 is designed for working with the power grip G 15. By using the power grip G 15, the MB 32 CT 3 becomes a handy grip-type flashgun.
The power grip G 15 is equipped with Dry-batteries, size IEC L R 14 or 4 NC-celles, size IEC KR 27/50.
An increased number of flashes per battery-set resp. per accu-charge can be obtained hereby.
When working with adapters of Dedicated System SCA 300 all special functions of flashgun and camera remain maintained.

Filter-Set 32–32
Contains 4 colour filters for fancy lighting and one clear filter holder for filter foils.

Modifications reserved!